Filed: September 17, 2003 Group Art Unit: 3733

Examiner: Swiger III, James L

Docket No.: 101896-0208 (DEP5150)

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A guide device for use with a spinal plate having at least one pair of screw bores formed therein, the guide device comprising:

an elongate shaft having a proximal end and a distal end;

a guide member coupled to the distal end of the elongate shaft and including first and second lumens extending therethrough in fixed relation to one another; and

first and second opposed alignment tabs extending distally from opposed outer edges of opposed ends of the guide member such that the first and second lumens are positioned between the first and second alignment tabs, the first and second opposed alignment tabs being adapted to interact with a spinal plate to position the guide member with respect to the spinal plate such that the first and second lumens in the guide member are aligned with a pair of corresponding screw bores formed in the spinal plate.

- 2. (Canceled)
- 3. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 1, wherein the first and second opposed alignment tabs are adapted to non-fixedly interact with a spinal plate to align the guide member with the spinal plate.
- 4-6. (Canceled).
- 7. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 1, further comprising at least one protrusion that extends distally from the guide member and that is adapted to be disposed within a corresponding bore formed in the spinal plate.
- 8-10. (Canceled).
- 11. (Withdrawn) The guide device of claim 1, wherein the guide member has a substantially rectangular, elongate shape and the first and second lumens extend therethrough.

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12. (Withdrawn) The guide device of claim 11, wherein the guide member includes opposed

superior and inferior sides and opposed transverse sides, the transverse sides having a width that is less

than a width of the superior and inferior sides.

13-15. (Canceled).

16. (Original) The guide device of claim 1, wherein a distal surface of the guide member has a

shape that conforms to the shape of a spinal plate.

17. (Original) The guide device of claim 1, wherein the first and second lumens are positioned at an

angle with respect to one another.

18. (Original) The guide device of claim 1, wherein the guide member comprises a first barrel

having a lumen extending therethrough, and a second barrel having a lumen extending therethrough.

19. (Original) The guide device of claim 18, wherein the first and second barrels are positioned at

an angle with respect to one another.

20-24. (Canceled).

25. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 1, wherein the first and second alignment tabs

are adapted to loosely interact with a spinal plate such that the guide member can pivot with respect to

the spinal plate.

26. (Withdrawn) The guide device of claim 1, wherein the first and second lumens have an

adjustable length.

27. (Original) The guide device of claim 1, wherein the proximal end on the elongate shaft is

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positioned at an angle with respect to a distal portion of the elongate shaft.

28. (Previously Presented) A guide device for use with a spinal plate having at least one screw bore

formed therein, the guide device comprising:

an elongate shaft having a proximal end and a distal end; and

a guide member coupled to the distal end of the elongate shaft and including first and second

lumens extending therethrough; and

first and second opposed alignment tabs extending distally from opposed outer edges of opposed

ends of the guide member such that at least one lumen is positioned between the first and second

alignment tabs, the first and second opposed alignment tabs being adapted to non-fixedly interact with

an edge of a spinal plate without engaging the spinal plate to position the guide member with respect to

the spinal plate such that the first and second lumens in the guide member are aligned with at least one

corresponding screw bore formed in the spinal plate.

29-32. (Canceled).

33. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 28, wherein the guide member comprises first

and second barrels having the first and second lumens formed therein.

34. (Withdrawn) The guide device of claim 33, wherein at least one of the first and second barrels

has an adjustable trajectory such that the at least one barrel can pivot about a point on a longitudinal axis

thereof.

35-51. (Canceled)

52. (Previously Presented) A guide device for use with a spinal plate having at least one pair of

screw bores formed therein, the guide device comprising:

an elongate shaft having a proximal end and a distal end;

a guide member coupled to the distal end of the elongate shaft and including first and second

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lumens extending therethrough in fixed relation to one another;

at least one alignment tab extending distally from the guide member, the at least one alignment tab being adapted to interact with a spinal plate to position the guide member with respect to the spinal plate such that the first and second lumens in the guide member are aligned with a pair of corresponding

screw bores formed in the spinal plate; and

at least one protrusion that extends distally from the guide member and that is adapted to be

disposed within a corresponding bore formed in the spinal plate.

53. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 52, wherein the at least one alignment tab

comprises first and second alignment tabs extending distally from opposed outer edges of opposed ends

of the guide member.

54. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 52, wherein the at least one tab is adapted to

non-fixedly interact with a spinal plate to align the guide member with the spinal plate.

55. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 52, wherein the at least one alignment tab is

adapted to prevent rotation between the guide member and a spinal plate when the guide member is

mated to a spinal plate.

56. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 55, wherein the at least one alignment tab

comprises an oval protrusion that extends distally from a distal end of the guide member.

57. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 52, wherein a distal surface of the guide

member has a shape that conforms to the shape of a spinal plate.

58. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 52, wherein the first and second lumens are

positioned at an angle with respect to one another.

59. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 52, wherein the guide member comprises a

first barrel having the first lumen extending therethrough, and a second barrel having the second lumen

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extending therethrough.

60. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 59, wherein the first and second barrels are

positioned at an angle with respect to one another.

61. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 52, wherein the at least one alignment tab is

adapted to loosely interact with a spinal plate such that the guide member can pivot with respect to the

spinal plate.

62. (Previously Presented) The guide device of claim 52, wherein the proximal end on the elongate

shaft is positioned at an angle with respect to a distal portion of the elongate shaft.

63. (Cancelled).